



# GARS News

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October, 1994

GARS News

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## New Meeting Place for October

The growth of GARS has forced us to find new meeting places for our regular meetings. The Red Cross notified us that their meeting room capacity is a maximum of fifty persons, and that this number cannot be exceeded!

Jim Massara, N2EST, committee chairman in charge of finding a new meeting site, has found one that looks good and may do for some time to come.

This month's meeting will be at the "WILLIAMS SEAFOOD of SAVANNAH" location at 3560 Buford Highway. This is a little north of the intersection of Pleasant Hill road and Buford Highway.

Besides seafood, the menu also includes fried chicken, fried chicken livers, chicken tenderloin strips, and hamburgers. Seafood entree prices range from 8.45 to 15.95.

Please note that it is not necessary to have dinner to come to the meeting.

Other meeting sites are also being investigated for future meetings, but come join us at Williams Seafood in October so we can enjoy a new treat together!

See "The Presidents-Pen" for further information about this and other club happenings.

### LATE BREAKING NEWS

Great new travel deal available to GARS members!

See page 10 for details!

## The PRESIDENTS PEN by Howard Gould, W4NMF

We need to reflect back and remind ourselves that this hobby of Ham Radio is more advanced today than it ever has been. Here I am sitting at my computer instead of my old typewriter that used to take for ever to do. Now I just type, hit a button or two and I can print it out or upload it onto a bulletin board. Totally amazing.

We can also send out messages over the air the same way by tying the com-

puter into the rig. Totally amazing. Ham radio many, many years ago was vacuum tubes and power loss with plenty of heat to keep you warm on a cold winter night. We had to use DC input in those days to the final amplifier to determine our legal output. Today we have built-in computers in the rig telling us what is going on and the power we are running. Back then we had to use dial scales to tell our frequency after we zeroed in on our 100kc crystal calibrator, that was calibrated with WWV so

we knew we were in the Ham band. Every time we changed bands and frequency we had to recalibrate to stay within the Ham band edges.

In the AM days we just zero-beat the other guys' carrier. Now to meet a schedule, we just spin the dial to the exact readout frequency on the digital display, and push little buttons to tune up the antenna, along with other buttons to change the mode of transmission. To-

tally amazing! You can't take a VOM and follow the circuits on the new stuff. Now you need thousands of dollars of equipment just to align these new babies.

There is not much available for newcomers to the hobby to build from scratch today in a few evenings. Nothing such as a complete SSB transceiver that is simple in design exists. All that stuff has faded away with time.

There is some good news out of all of this though, and that is there is still a tremendous amount of old gear available today, and still some tube suppliers around that can re-

plenish the finals etc.. This is good for those newcomers looking for an inexpensive way to get down on the HF bands - so there is some hope.

Go to the Hamfests and find a Drake TR4C or similar vintage, but look out for the high asking prices - and make a low bid - you would be surprised what you can come away with.

Getting back to the future of the hobby, you will find more and more changes taking place with little change

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The GARS CW class, shown hard at work here, soon will have their graduation. Thanks to Duane, KD4KCR for all his hard work helping these folks learn the code.

Upgrade fever is in full swing at GARS!

puter into the rig. Totally amazing. Ham radio many, many years ago was vacuum tubes and power loss with plenty of heat to keep you warm on a cold winter night. We had to use DC input in those days to the final amplifier to determine our legal output. Today we have built-in computers in the rig telling us what is going on and the power we are running. Back then we had to use dial scales to tell our frequency after we zeroed in on our 100kc crystal calibrator, that was calibrated with WWV so



## GARS News

*Gars News* is the official monthly organ of the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of the amateur radio art.

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If possible, submit *News* items in ASCII format by posting a private message to Dean Matthews on the GARS conference of the Scientific Atlanta BBS (903-5487), then use the Save Attached save command, which will prompt you to upload your ASCII file. Art can be accepted in TIFF or PCX format on IBM compatible disk.

Contact the Editor for odd format compatibility, or other means of transfer. Deadline for article submissions is the first Thursday of each month.

The GARS address is:

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P.O. BOX 88  
LILBURN, GA 30226

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(Prez, continued from p.1)

in the pricing of equipment in fact I suspect that it is going to continue to climb.

The reason for this is the manufacturers know there is no competition with homebrewers like there used to be, and that most every new Ham is coming in as a no-code tech with very little electronic experience - so they are out to attract them with fancy looking rigs that do just about everything.

You are going to see new modes of transmission taking place along with special receivers as the search for narrower interference free frequencies come out of research.

It should be an exciting hobby in the future. But let's not forget that there are some very talented Hams in the hobby who are highly technical with the ability to build from scratch anything you throw their way. If you are fortunate enough to know one, hang around him and learn.

We had a very good turn out at our last meeting which took place at Ryan's Steak House, Lawrenceville. We had a good program with Bob KA4EMV filling us in with what we can do to build our existing communications network up with options a plenty.

I hope all of you who were there at the meeting took serious note of things to come and that you will be able to give some input to the club on your thoughts and ideas as to how we should proceed with the additions we need.

We need the involvement of every member not just a few as the future of the club is at stake so dig in and give us your opinions.

We were advised at the last meeting by Charles, WA4QYY that the date on the bike race had been moved up much to everyone's surprise to the very next weekend after the meeting. Well low and behold we had 18 turnout for the event which took place with a little misty rain and very low turnout of bikers. We were there early in the AM about 7:00 to get things rolling.

It turned out to be a good day after all and all the Hams who participated were well into it for the whole day. After it was all over, most Hams commented e that it was a very rewarding experience.

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## GARS GROWS GREATLY BY GOLLY!

Five new members were voted in at the August meeting!

**Welcome these Hams to GARS:**

Edwin Brunot, KC4VLJ  
of Loganville, GA

Dean Schneider, KD4RUJ  
of Lawrenceville, GA

Jim Dempsey, KE4QFH  
of Buford, GA

Bill Brandon, KR4KT  
of Lithonia, GA

Eddie Foust, WD4JEM  
of Lawrenceville, GA

*Welcome these new members at the next club meeting or on the air! -ED ♦*

Since the event had a very low turnout, five of the officers of the club who attended this event voted unanimously not to take any donation to the club as previously agreed to so we left with a lot of people feeling good about GARS and what we did for them.

Those Hams attending besides myself were:

Bob, KE4CWI; Vince, KE4DYY;  
Vince Jr., KE4DYX; Bill, KE4EIH;  
Ike, KE4GYM; Dennis, KE4IKO;  
Cheryl, KE4JKM; Anna, N9KHC;  
Marty, KE4MLH; Charles, AD4MI;  
Everett, KE4PWV; Chuck, KD4QPC;  
Larry, KD4QFD; Charles, WA4QYY;  
Bob, WB4RPM; Thedra, KD4VHV; and  
Brian, NX9O.

### Red Cross Meeting Place No Longer Possible

I just heard from Jean, KA4BNG that she has been advised by the Red Cross person in charge of letting us

(Continued on p.3)



(Prez, continued from p.2)

conduct our meetings there, that the room we use has a capacity of 50 and that there is to be no more than that amount at any of our meetings.

It looks like we will have to make a move sooner than we expected. The Red Cross is not unhappy with us, it is just that they are concerned about their breaking the fire marshal code which we are doing every month we are there.

#### October Meeting Place Changed

Jim, N2EST has been working hard making various contacts with different groups and establishments, and has proposed that we hold our October meeting at Williams Seafood of Savannah, 3560 Buford Hwy, Duluth just North of Pleasant Hill Rd. There is no obligation to eat there but those who do will have a 15% gratuity charge added to their bill. Jim says the room available is quite large and very much the size we are looking for. There would be no charge for the room. we have nothing to lose by trying this out and maybe we will have some folks liking the change from Ryan's. I am told that the menu is quite diversified even though they have a seafood name. So be prepared to come around 6:00PM for dinner with the regular meeting to follow..

I have to get this article into the Editor by the first Thursday of the month so I will be unable to report on the turnout for the Benefield School and Trebble Mill Park events. I sure hope the club comes through, especially after seeing those hands come up at the last meeting when all members present were asked if they wanted the officers of the club to continue seeking civic events for the club to do. It was a unanimous decision from the show of hands.

## GARS MEMBERS WED

Jenny Bouckaert, KE4QNE and Lewis Eberhardt, KE4QOV were married in a small, private ceremony recently. Congratulations to the newlyweds! Imagine getting your Amateur Radio AND wedding license all in the same month!

I want to see a good turnout for all future events. I will need interested Hams to come forward and offer to act as Chairman for each event, and volunteers to join them in forming a good committee to see that all the gear is brought to each event with plenty of operators to man the equipment. We will need lots of people just setting up and tearing down the event, and lots of donations of equipment and time for the events. These events cannot run without help from everyone who can afford a few hours or whatever time they can give. There is always something for someone to do, so do not feel that you can not offer anything. Just come and be ready to help.

The ARES Net is doing very good and I am pleased to see the participation by the club in supporting this good cause. If any of you missed the meeting when Pat, KC4DOO gave a presentation outlining future meetings at the Justice & Administration Building for her ARES discussions, then give her a call before you miss out on it all. It is my understanding that the ARES net will be a weekly Wednesday night program starting at 8:00PM. Be part of this planning stage for better emergency communications for Gwinnett County. You will learn how to handle traffic and follow net procedures.

Many of the GARS sponsored events are still active and looking for more participation by either GARS members or non GARS members. It really matters that we keep these programs alive and well for it is through these activities that we grow into a stronger club. Spread the news and be proud of your club.

It is through your efforts that we can continue these activities to help new Hams or old-timers alike. The end result is that we gain more skills and knowledge about our hobby by being involved with current civic affairs as we get to work as a group rather than as an individual and we always learn something new.

#### Club HF Rig

##### Still Available To Members

I hope everyone is enjoying their Radio Hobby and finding interesting conversations on the Amateur bands whether it

## NEW CALLSIGNS

KE4NRT Gloria Hulsey  
KE4QBE Joan Grant  
KE4QNE Jenny Eberhardt  
KE4QOV Lewis Eberhardt

be HF/VHF/UHF or some other modes. As you newcomers have probably found out by now, there are a lot of Amateur bands to explore. If you don't have the license class to operate, you can always borrow the club HF rig we have and listen. I presently do not have it loaned out so anyone interested in it give me a call. You must be a member to borrow it.

Our Editor Dean, AD4OD has built band pass filters, which for those of you who don't know are devices that are used in the front end receiver section that pass only the band of frequencies you want it to pass and highly rejects all other frequencies, to a point so you can have two or more rigs operating out of the same location with very little interference between the two. I am sure Dean would be pleased to help anyone interested in this project and I believe we are going to use some on next Field day.

#### Field day 1995.

Speaking of Field Day, if you intend to be around for next years, which is the last weekend in June, it is never too early to sign up. Let Vince, KE4DYY know what your abilities are, what kind of operating you like, what kind of schedule you want, and maybe we can get an early list going. We will be working on making next years' event a success and also a fun time for all.

#### Nominations For 1995 Officers

I also know it's a little early for this one, but we will be looking for a nominating committee in December for the new slate of officers. I have Johnny, W4WKP volunteering so far. He is chairing this, so give him a call - those of you interested in being on the committee.

Also in December we would like to present the Ham Of the Year Award to someone in the club. The Executive Committee is looking for some nomina-

(Continued on p.4)



(Prez, continued from p.3)

## Contact GARS

### OFFICERS 1994-1995

#### President:

W4NVF Howard Gould 921-8362

#### Vice President:

KD4QFD Larry Osborne 972-1185

#### Secretary:

KE4GYM Ike Chapman 339-8123

#### Treasurer:

WA4QYY Charles Evans 448-0930

#### Activities Mgr:

KA4KKF David Adcock 963-5767

#### News Editor:

AD4OD Dean Matthews 962-8941

#### License Trustee:

KO4ZS Paul Bennett 206-0215

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W4WKP Johnny Fearon 466-4038

KD4EHG Buddy Dowdell 476-1616

KD4HMC Sam Roundtree 921-7423

W4NZJ Jud Whatley 972-1940

### COMMITTEES

#### REPEATER:

##### Co-Chairmen:

W4NVF Howard Gould 921-8362

KA4EMV Bob DeVeau 923-3963

##### Members:

K4KAZ Fred Runkle 945-6356

KC4ZUA Arnold Solomon 923-3963

W4IXN Richard Barnes 995-7248

KD4SIL George Neville 963-0705

KD4KCR Duane Hansen 962-6086

N9XO Brian McCarthy 813-0121

K4HRB Ron Davidson 466-4932

##### Control Operators:

KD4QFD Larry Osborne 972-1185

KE4EMA Jack Herndon 995-0438

AD4PZ Joe Biddle 963-4316

KE4GYM Ike Chapman 339-9231

KD4KCR Duane Hansen 962-6086

W4NVF Howie Gould 921-8362

KA4EMV Bob DeVeau 923-3963

K4HRB Ron Davidson 466-4932

#### MEMBERSHIP:

KE4EMA Jack Herndon 995-0438

#### PUBLICITY:

AD4PZ Joe Biddle 963-4316

W4WKP Johnny Fearon 466-4038

#### FIELD DAY:

KE4DYY Vincent Hrabosky 246-9630

#### HAM CLASSES:

KA9UIE Steve Idler 513-0428

#### HF/VHF/UHF AWARDS MGR:

KE4GGP Don Ennest 923-4851

### JOIN GARS

Membership dues for the 1994-1995 are:

\$25.00 for Individual Memberships

\$35.00 for Family Memberships

Contact Jack Herndon, KE4EMA at 995-0438 for more information about joining GARS.

tions so turn them in.

Along those same lines, we will be looking to give some service awards to some of our members.

The Ham Of The Year Award is to be given to that individual who has promoted Amateur Radio in the past year unselfishly above all personal gain, devoting his or her time to the Amateur Radio Community at large.

The service awards will be given to those members of GARS who have performed outstanding efforts to support GARS in all of its programs and activities by being actively involved. You can send in your nominations with an explanation of why your chosen candidate should receive either of these awards to GARS, P. O. Box 88, Lilburn, Ga 30226. You can also leave a message on the BBS to me, or by any other means, just as long as you are a member of GARS.

Submit one name only for Ham Of The Year Award and one name for a service award. The cut-off date will be November 30, 1994 so get them in.

#### Christmas Party Help Needed

I am looking for someone to chair a committee for the Christmas party that GARS has each year. Last year we had it at the Red Cross building. We had a dinner prepared by some Girl Scouts, which we charged each GARS member a certain price for, and any excess over what the girls cost was they put it in a fund to benefit them.

Maybe the gals in the club can get together and propose something since they are kind of experts at meals and things. We need to work fast on this and we also have to know if we have a place to go to for the party?

I think we need a plan first and then we can take up the possibility of the club treasury supporting some of this. I will be looking for volunteers at the October meeting - but don't let that stop you from giving me a call before then.

I hope to see you all at the next meeting. Bring a friend if you like and come prepared to enjoy yourself.

73, Howie W4NVF...

A Not Very Funny Production ♦

## The Test

by Ted Carlough, KE4PXX

It was Monday, May 23, 1994. Friday the 27th was the date I selected to take the Technician exam to become a Ham operator. I had studied like a lunatic to get ready for THE TEST!!

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday went by like greased lightning. I crammed everything I could into my seventy-five year old mind, and that was not easy.

It was six P.M. on that famous, Friday evening. I grabbed a light bite, but wasn't even hungry. I kissed my wife good-bye, and she wished me "Good Luck" on THE TEST.

Shuffling out the door and climbing into my car, I began to think about THE TEST. I asked myself, "Why should I get nervous? Was I not the first eight year old in my neighborhood to build a crystal set with an old Quaker Oatmeal box? Did I not, with the help of a cat's whisker listen to all the radiostations? I wasn't nervous that Christmas morning I took apart my best friend's hundred dollar fire engine that he had received as a present. I wasn't even nervous when I couldn't get it back together again. When I was twelve, my sister gave me her husband's enormously expensive cuckoo clock to fix, I wasn't nervous when I ended the repair with a supply of strange parts and a wood cuckoo bird."

It's funny how stress will bring back visions of "things gone by"... like the driveway to the test location. Slowly, as I backed up and pulled my car into the parking lot, it appeared as though no one was around - and that appealed to me. I said, "Great, I'll come back next month and give it another shot." Then I heard Howie's voice... then his laughter. I knew I was sunk. I HAD to take THE TEST!

I timidly trudged into the church proper. There it was, THE TEST room.

(Continued on p.5)



## Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

### Monthly Meeting Minutes

#### September 15, 1994

In attendance: Howie Gould, W4NVF, President; Larry Osborne, KD4QFD, Vice President; Ike Chapman, KE4GYM, Secretary; Charles Evans, WA4QYY, Treasurer; Dean Matthews, AD4OD, Newsletter Editor; Paul Bennett, KO4ZS, License Trustee.

The meeting was called to order by President Gould at 19:32 local time at Ryan's Steak House in Lawrenceville. All members and visitors present were asked to introduce themselves. A sign-in sheet was passed around the room which showed that 41 members and 15 visitors were present at the meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the minutes of the August meeting as published in the newsletter. The motion passed without any objections.

Charles, WA4QYY, gave the treasurer's report. Charles then announced that the bike ride date had been changed from September 24 to September 17 and he just found out. He asked that all volunteers be at the Buford Church of God at 7:00 AM on Saturday.

Dean, AD4OD, asked for contributions to the newsletter and reminded everyone that the deadline for submittals is the first Thursday of each month.

Duane, KD4KCR, discussed the upcoming demonstration at Tribble Mill Park on October 8. All volunteers for operating the stations at this event should contact Mary, KE4MFZ.

Jim, KR4XY, and Randy, AC4PD, volunteered to coordinate the upcoming demonstrations at Dyer Elementary on October 1 and Benefield Elementary on October 8.

Jim, N2EST, gave a report on the search for a new meeting place. At the present time Jim presented four options for a non-binding straw poll. The options were 1) stay at the Red Cross (3 votes), 2) move to Ryan's (4 votes), 3) keep looking for a new site (17 votes), and 4) alternate between Ryan's and the Red Cross (17 votes). Howie asked that the committee keep looking since the original charter of the committee was to report back at the end of the year. In the meantime, the meeting will alternate between the Red Cross and Ryan's with next month's meeting at the Red Cross.

Cheryl, KE4JKM, announced that Rookie Radio will be holding another antenna building class in late October.

Steve, AD4LY, discussed the code practice and asked that if you are listening to check in so that they know who is out there. Steve also asked for volunteers to help with the code practice on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Ike, KE4GYM, reminded everyone about the GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information net on Tuesday nights and asked for people to check into the net. Ike asked that anyone interested in serving as net control to contact him.

Joe, AD4PZ, presented 5 new candidates for membership which were accepted as members without opposition. The new GARS members are: Eddie Faust, WD4JEM; Dean Scheinder, KD4RUJ; James Dempsey, KE4QFH; Ed Brunot, KC4VLJ; Bill Brandon, KR4KT;

Larry, KD4QFD, reported on the presentation that Vern Fowler, W8BLA made to the executive committee on HamRadio 95. Larry explained what GARS would be committed to and what HamRadio 95 and the Ham Foundation was offering GARS. A motion was made by Bob, KA4EMV, that GARS loan it's logo and name to HamRadio 95 providing information is given to GARS that GARS is not responsible financially or for liability either for the club or it's members. The motion was seconded and passed with one vote in opposition.

The business meeting was adjourned at 21:45 local time.

After a break, Bob, KA4EMV made a presentation on the new repeater and possible enhancements to the GARS UHF/VHF communications system. ♦

(TEST, continued from p.4)

Howie, Joe and Dave (the Volunteer-Examiners) were ready to give THE TEST. I felt like Don Knots. Moments later, there I was sitting at a table taking THE TEST, while being supervised by the "Three Wise Men". They assured me everything was going to be okay.

Shortly after the wretched ordeal, Dave gave me the great news. I had passed THE TEST. It was tough, but I met the challenge. I waited fourteen weeks for my call sign, KE4PXX. Now all I need to do is press the "PTT" button. - It was worth it.

(Sounds to us like he waited about 67 years for his license! Congratulations, Ted! -Ed) ♦

### Arlin Lambert, KB5UKL

#### GARS

#### HAM OF THE MONTH

by Johnny Fearon, W4WKP

Our GARS Ham of the Month featured for this issue is Arlin Lambert, KB5UKL of Norcross.

Arlin obtained his license in the summer of 1992 while assisting with a scout troop at his church. The scoutmaster was a ham who worked on radios for a public utility, and had access to a supply of them. He told each person who took the class that if they finished he would give them a radio. Thus, about 25 people got into that class including Arlin and his sons Christopher, KC5GLQ and Abraham, KC5GLR.

The rig was an Icom 230, which was made in the 1970's, and was a viable two meter radio at the time given. Arlin still has the Icom as a back up radio, though his main rig is a Kenwood TH-22AT handi-talkie.

Arlin, who moved to Georgia from Oklahoma with his wife Linda and their four children this summer, is a telecommunications consultant. His interests in Amateur Radio include public service, ARES as well as disaster relief.

All three hams in the family are technicians at this time but hope to be upgrading soon. Arlin has been absent some from GARS lately due to his scout meetings, but he says "the Lambert clan will be back." I told him that we missed he and his sons on the repeater. ♦



# QUA

## 1st Wednesday - HamWatch

Shoney's 11690 Alpharetta Hwy., Roswell (about 2 1/2 miles North of Holcomb Bridge Rd across from North Fulton Hospital) Dinner at 6:30PM. Meeting is at 7:30 PM

## 1st Thursday

**N.E. Georgia Amateur Radio Club**  
Jefferson Civic Center, off Memorial Dr. toward Winder from Jefferson. Dinner at 6:15. meeting is at 7:00PM. TI-147.225+

## 1st Thursday -

### Atlanta Radio Club

Days Inn at I-285 and Roswell Rd. Dinner at Old Hickory House at 6:00PM. Meeting is at 7:30PM TI-146.82-

## 2nd Tuesday,

### Metro Atlanta Telephone Pioneers

American Roadhouse Restaurant in the Dunwoody Village Shopping Center. Dutch dinner is at 6:30PM, program begins at 7:00PM. TI-145.41-

## 2nd Wednesday

### North Fulton Radio League

Cherokee Cattle Company, 11208 Alpharetta Hwy. Dinner at 6:00PM. Meeting at 7:30PM TI-145.47-

## 2nd Thursday

### Alford Memorial Radio Club

Elks Lodge on Memorial Drive. Dinner at 6:00PM Meeting at 7:30PM. TI-146.76-

## 2nd Saturday

### East Atlanta LAN

Scott Blvd Baptist Church in Decatur. Meeting is at 10:00AM. TI-145.41-

## 3rd Thursday

### Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society

Pre-Meeting fellowship dinner at 6:00PM, followed by the meeting and program, at Williams Seafood of Savannah, 3560 Buford Highway, north of Pleasant Hill Road. TI 147.075+ ♦

# CALLSIGN CONSUMPTION STATISTICS

*by Dickell Cummins, AD4B*

Interest in ham radio has been growing steadily since the mid 1970's. It may be going faster now but the time it has taken to go from KA to KB to KC to KD to KE has dropped by one year for each of those milestones. It could be that the no-code license has helped push that change even faster, but the rate of license issuing increase has been constant as shown below.

KA to KB	6 years
KB to KC	5 years
KC to KD	3 years
KD to KE	2 years

At some point they are going to have to give some thought to reissuing calls again. ♦

Tandy Corporation's Radio Shack Division has filed a petition with the

## NEWS from the FCC Radio Shack Proposes A New Class of Radio Service

FCC to create a new radio service that would be license free, and occupy the spectrum of the old General Mobile radio service band.

The current General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) requires licensing, which Radio Shack felt hurt their attempt at selling low power GMRS radios in the 70CM band a couple of years ago.

Tandy is calling the proposed service the "Family Radio Service", and it would occupy frequencies from 462 to 467 MHz, using 16 channel radios operating with a half-watt power level.

According to the FCC Internet BBS, they have not yet issued any rules

regarding this proposed service. More to come as it becomes available.

## NEW "800" NUMBER FOR LICENSE INFO AT FCC GETTYSBURG OFFICE

Effective immediately, you can call the FCC's Gettysburg licensing office from 8:00AM to 4:30PM EST on weekdays at a new toll free number... 800-322-1117.

This number will be good for all inquiries regarding the status of amateur radio call signs, marine radio licensing information, interference complaints, requests for forms, and other information.

The FCC expects more on-line information access to be implemented within the next eighteen months as well. ♦

## "73" MAGAZINE FACES SERIOUS FINANCIAL TROUBLE

Many may be already aware of the tax problems Wayne Green has been facing for some time now. According to articles in the last couple W5YI Reports, his troubles seem to be escalating at a logarithmic rate.

In an interview with W5YI, former "73" advertising coordinator Judy Walker, who was also assistant to associate publisher David Cassidy said that "they have no money to pay any bills."

She also stated "They owe for printing August issue of *Radio Fun*. September and October are both sitting on the sidelines because he can not pay the August print bill." ...and "The November '73' is supposed to ship to the printer tomorrow. That check had to be to the printer tomorrow to pay for that printing. If Quad Graphics out of Thomasston, Georgia does not get their check, they are not going to print."

The truly sad thing in all this mess is that according to these articles, "73" magazine is itself quite profitable., but just about all Greens other ventures have lost money. ♦



# GARS NET NOTES

by Ike Chapman, KE4GYM

The GARS Want, Swap, Sell, and Information Net meets each Tuesday at 2000 hours local time on the GARS 2 meter repeater. All amateurs licensed for 2 meters are invited to check into the net regardless of whether or not they are club members. All GARS members are encouraged to check in and participate in our weekly net.

The net format is to have the officers and chairpersons check-ins, check-ins for those stations having announcements and/or swap shop items, and then general check-ins.

After the general check-ins, a round table of all stations checking in is held so that everyone gets a chance to make a comment or just say hello.

The net will usually lasts 40 to 60 minutes depending on the number of check-ins and is followed by the GARS Tuesday night code practice. During the net, information of interest to club members is given out and Howie, W4NVF can be counted on the give updates on current club activities.

Currently net control is handled by Ike, KE4GYM with help from Johnny, W4WKP, and Dennis, KE4IKO. If you are interested in operation as net control for a net, please let me know and I will be glad to get you a copy of the preamble.

The current record for check-ins for the weekly GARS nets stands at 40 on July 5th with Ike, KE4GYM serving as NCS. The nets for the past six weeks had check-ins as follows: 08/30/94: 35 with Ike, KE4GYM as NCS; 09/06/94: 38 with Johnny, W4WKP as NCS; 09/13/94: 22 with Ike, KE4GYM as NCS; 09/20/94: 26 with Ike, KE4GYM as NCS; 09/27/94: 23 with Ike, KE4GYM as NCS; 10/04/94: 30 with Ike, KE4GYM as NCS.

73 & Hope to see you on the net. ♦

## ACCESSING the NEW PHONE PATCH

by Cheryl McClure, KE4JKM

Since the new repeater has been installed the procedures for accessing the phone patch have changed a little.

We'll start with a little background information for the new hams and then walk through both a regular call and a speed dial call.

First of all, the patch is closed access. This means the password or repeater code is given out only to GARS members. When you joined or renewed your membership, you should have been given the code.

If you need to be reminded, contact the GARS membership chairman - Jack Herndon, KE4EMA at 995-0438. Since this newsletter is read by non-members, I will substitute &&&& for the code when I describe the procedure.

There are a few things to remember before you use the patch. First, it is the most public phone call you will ever make. Be sure to let the person you are calling know that you are calling on the radio. Usually the sound quality is very good and they won't be able to tell that you are using the patch. They might want to watch what they say on public airwaves.

Also, they need to understand that while you have the mike keyed you can't hear them if they try to interrupt you.

Now, for the fun part. Before accessing the patch, listen to be sure the repeater is not in use. If you just turned on your radio you might want to ask, "Is the repeater in use?". I will give the procedure as if I were calling 555-1212.

>I key the mike and say "This is KE4JKM accessing the patch".

>With the mike still keyed I press &&&& (the code), unkey and listen for a dial tone.

>When I hear the dial tone I key the mike and dial 5551212.

>I then unkey and listen to the phone ring. You know what to do from here.

>Remember, there is a five minute limit on your conversation! If you don't hang up in time you run the risk of being cut off.

>When the call is complete, I key the mike and press the disconnect code. On the old repeater, this was just one key. Now we have to press four.

>The repeater will drop the patch and say "Phone patch clear".

>I key the mike once more and say "KE4JKM clear of the patch" and I'm done.

You don't need the code to use the speed dial, just use the number. To dial XXXX I would proceed as follows.

>I key the mike and say "This is KE4JKM accessing the patch".

>With the mike still keyed I press XXXX and then unkey.

>The repeater will read out the call sign of the person I am calling and then the phone should begin to ring.

>When the call is complete I key the mike and press the four digit disconnect code.

>The repeater will drop the patch and say "Phone patch clear".

>I key the mike once more and say "KE4JKM clear of the patch".

If you use the phone patch often enough it will become second nature. If you don't use it very much you probably should keep your little blue card with the codes handy.

Some of the newer radios have memory set aside to store DTMF codes. You can put your most frequently used numbers or just the codes in memory. Of course then you have to remember what you put where. Isn't technology wonderful? ♦

Census Bureau figures for March 1994 indicate that 93.9% of all households in the United States have a telephone.



## ROOKIE RADIO NOTES

by Cheryl McClure, KE4JKM

CQ, CQ, CQ..... Calling all hams who want to build antennas. Our Vice President, Larry Osborne (KD4QFD) is offering to help us with an antenna building workshop on October 29.

You supply the plans, materials and labor. Larry will supply advice, tools, and a SWR meter. If anyone is interested in building an HF dipole he will even put ropes up in his trees to insure accurate SWR readings.

If you don't have plans for your antenna, consult back issues of a Ham magazine such as "CQ" or give Larry a call. You need to have your materials and plans ready before the workshop begins.

At the last antenna workshop a variety of 2 meter antennas were built from inexpensive materials with great success. It's fun and educational. We'll get started at 8 am. You can have your very own homemade antenna finished by lunch-time. Call me for directions and more information at 995-5159.

Also

The No-code Technician class that was to begin in September was canceled due to the small number of students who registered. It will probably be offered again in January at Central Gwinnett High School. Stay tuned for details.

## ADVERTISE IN GARS NEWS

We are now accepting a limited number of advertisements for publication in the GARS News.

Contact either Jim Baker, KC4YBQ at 479-0479, Joe Biddle, AD4PZ at 963-4316 or Dean Matthews, AD4OD at 962-8941 for more information.

All of the proceeds from the sale of advertisements go to support the Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, a non-profit ARRL Affiliated Special Service organization.

The Morse Code class is still going great Monday nights at the Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Building at 7:30 PM. The GARS VEC team has kindly offered to provide testing at our last class.

Howie, (W4NVF) our President, will also come to a class to demonstrate his incredible speed writing and code copying ability. Even if you haven't been attending class, you ought to show up for this!

Plans are also being made for a CW Net so we can get on air experience. I'm told the only way to do it is just to DO IT! If you would like to join us and don't mind hearing a mistake now and then, listen to the Tuesday night (8 PM) GARS net for final details.

Once again, if anyone has any amateur radio related subject they want to learn more about, probably someone else will be interested too. Give me a call (995-5159) or let me know at a GARS meeting what you would like to see put together. It's that easy! ♦

## WORK GARS

### REPEATER

GARS 2-Meter  
FM repeater 147.075 MHz +600

### TELEPHONE BBS

GARS Conference in  
Sci-Atl phone BBS 903-5487

### 6-METER BEACON

WA4IOB 6 Meter Beacon at 50.075 MHz

### PACKET

WD4JXR-6 / SNELLV Packet  
Node/Digipeater 145.03 MHz

### SWAP, WANTED and SELL NET

Tuesdays at 8:00PM on the  
GARS Repeater. 147.075 MHz

### MORSE CODE PRACTICE SESSION

An interactive Morse Code practice session immediately follows the 8:00P.M. Tuesday night net on the GARS repeater, and on Thursdays at 9:00P.M..

## November BIRTHDAYS

8th	KE4IKS	Dennis Prince
10th	KD4MQR	Richard Head
17th	AD2Q	David Rife

Information taken from the GARS Roster. Not on the list or wrong date? Let the Membership Chairman know! -Ed.♦

## Devil's DX Dictionary

by Gary Shapiro, N16T

Ambrose Bierce, a misanthropic 19th-century writer who disappeared in Mexico back in 1913, is remembered for stories of the dark side of human experience. His Devil's Dictionary contained biting satiric definitions. In that vein:  
**DXers n.** A group of like-minded optimists separated from their senses and by great distances, who employ hoary technology to exchange superficial pleasantries more efficiently accomplished by other means.

**Flea market n.** An event for the ritualistic transfer of electronic junk between participants' garages.

**DX net n.** An on-the-air seance in which DX stations are reputedly contacted through a conductor or medium called a "net control." Only the medium can certify the contact, since the two stations cannot hear each other.

**PacketCluster™ n.** An electronic means of contacting DX stations without ever having to actually tune for them (often using software to eliminate all need for operating skills).

**SysOp n.** 1. Person who controls a PacketCluster™ node. 2. An individual chosen by God to rule a kingdom accessed via a 2-meter frequency. A SysOp may solicit dialogue from his wretched subjects regarding PacketCluster™ innovations or procedures, but tends to reject and punish criticism.

**Contesting n.** A "social" activity in which adults withdraw from the world for up to two days to "communicate" via radio-in short, arcane utterances - with as many participants as possible.

(Devil, continued on p.10)



# FOXHUNTING AT FORT YARGO

by Dean Matthews, AD4OD

"Which way did he go George, which way did he go?", said the dog looking for the "chicken-hawk" in an old cartoon.

The foxhunt (hidden transmitter hunt) held at the GARS picnic at Fort Yargo state park on July 16th was a hoot! Thanks to Brian Ford, KC4LYS for putting it all together and being such a wonderful fox.

The winning team consisted of yours truly and Joe Biddle, AD4PZ. Our equipment consisted of a simple homebrew directional antenna, and a pair of HT's as well as the mobile rig in my truck.

Brian told us that he would make it easy by staying in plain sight, stay stationary within the park and transmit just about continuously. This was to be an easy hunt, since it was the first hunt for most of the hunters, including Joe and myself.

When the hunt began, everybody took a reading from the shelters parking lot and then hopped in their cars in search of the fox. Our first reading pointed off to the east into the woods, in the direction of a large part of the lake and across that to the camping areas, according to the map Brian had given us.

We piled in my truck and formulated a master plan - we would drive up to the park entrance in the north part of the park and take a second reading to get a triangulation on the fox with our first reading. But when we got to the entrance we could not hear the fox!

We decided to then drive into the camping area, monitoring on my mobile rig until we could hear the signal again, since that was the estimated location pointed to from our initial (and only) reading. After driving way down into the camp areas and still hearing nothing, I suggested that maybe our initial reading was off the "backside" of my antenna, so we left the park and went

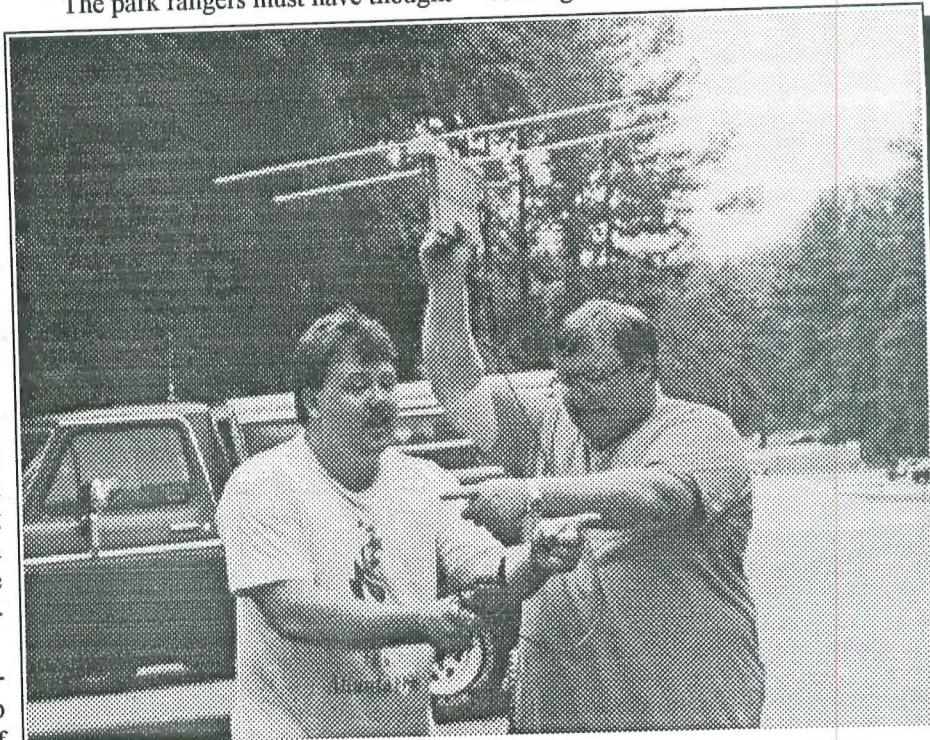
down to the other entrance at the west side of the park.

Later, we found out that Howies' team had done pretty much the same thing as we had to this point. From this location we could just barely hear the fox. We were really stumped. The only place we could hear the fox well in the whole park was from the starting point, so back we went.

The park rangers must have thought

Joe and I descended through the woods until we reached the bottom of the hill and a trail at the waters edge. The signal was the loudest we had heard so far! Armed only with HT's with rubber duck and hot-rod antennas, we figured to use body shielding to find the fox from here.

We assumed the fox was nearby, took some inconclusive "body shield" readings and followed the trail along the



Joe, AD4PZ (LEFT) and the author, taking their initial direction-finding bearing during foxhunt held at the GARS picnic at Ft. Yargo park.

we had all lost our minds by now. Several carloads of people driving back and forth, here and there with antennas sticking out of the windows and speaking in excited, urgent tones.

A second reading at the starting point yielded exactly the same as the first, so we decided to go in the direction indicated, off through the woods to the east of the shelter.

lakes' edge for a few hundred yards, until we noticed the signal was losing strength.

Then we backtracked and watched the signal increase again. When we came to a footbridge near where we had originally found the path, we discussed the possibilities and took even more readings.

I decided my rubber duck was about useless - I could not determine a null or



a peak in signal as I rotated no matter how I held the rig. Joes' hot-rod, however, seemed to exhibit some directivity. The best signal was with the antenna parallel to the waters edge. We gazed across the lake and tried to spot the fox.

A couple of figures were walking around a cabin on the other side but the direction was a little askew from Joes' reading. Then I spotted a man standing on a dock, right in line with the body-shield reading.

I told Joe: "I've got him!!! There!!! On the dock!!!" we were both pretty pumped up by now. I called Brian on my HT, "We think we see you, wave at us!" From about an eighth-mile away, we could not make out Brians face. He was waving but facing the other way. I said: "Turn around and look across the lake!" When he did he saw us waving and jumping up and down, high fiving and hollering.

Brian announced the kill, and we heard Howie say: "I see you too, over there by the house!" Brian told him he was nowhere near a house and to keep looking.

Joe and I headed back to the shelter to savor our first foxhunt kill, and listened while the others continued to hunt him for about 15 more minutes with Brian helping them as much as possible. As it turns out, the hill leading down to the dock Brian was on completely shielded his signal from the camping area road above him. The way we found him, across the water, was probably the only way you could without hints, while he was running low power.

All involved learned a lot that day and look forward to our next hunt. I have ideas for improving my homebrew antenna, and am considering the purchase of a hot-rod antenna for my HT.

See you at the next hunt. ♦

## GARS W5YI-VEC TEST SESSION

4th Friday at St. John Neumann Church at 801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks Trickum Road, Lilburn. Contact Howie Gould, W4NVF at 921-8362.

Walk-In Exams - Headphones!



GARS members demonstrate Amateur Radio at the new K-Mart store in Duluth, this summer. Several new members and even a couple new hams were gleaned from this display, not to mention a lot of fun by those involved. HF, VHF, CW and Packet were all demonstrated at this event, as was a lot of goodwill.

## TRAVEL DEAL for GARS MEMBERS

Two of our members have made us an offer we can't refuse! Bob and Julie Bridges, N4XAR and N4XAV, own Bridges Travel on Pleasant Hill Rd. in Duluth. Theirs is a Uniglobe agency, a popular nation-wide brand travel agency.

Here is the deal: Make your flight, cruise, and vacation tour plans through Bridges Travel and they will donate a percentage of the purchase to GARS!

Simple? Everybody benefits! The Bridges get new business, you get a great travel agent you know, and GARS gets a new source of income.

This can amount to a significant amount of income for the club, so take advantage of it! In the meanwhile, call Bridges Travel for all your travel needs at 813-0034, and tell them you are a GARS member!

This came up the day before we went to press, so more to follow in next months' GARS News. ♦

(Devil, continued from p.8)

**QRM n.** all stations in a pileup other than the successful candidate; i.e., what *you* were in the pileup before the DX station came back to *you*.

**Hamvention n.** A large tribal gathering of Radio Amateurs, identifiable by such artifacts as rubber antennae attached to funny hats. Participants often communicate via small radios, even when in close proximity, while engaging in such rituals as exchanging junk. (See "Flea market.")

**160 meters n.** A spectral region wherein gather two or more hopeful fools for the purpose of listening to static crashes.

**6 meters n.** A spectral region wherein gather two or more hopeful fools for the purpose of listening to white noise.

(from the Northern California DX Club "DXer", as reprinted in the "ARNS Bulletin") ♦



# ARES News

by Pat Runkle, KC4DOO

On our first ARES Net there were 24 check-ins, and the question posed for the evening was:

*"What item might you carry in your car for emergency use?"*

Below are the answers received:

1. Blanket
2. Flares, animal repellent
3. Tools, cellular phone
5. Jumper cables, folding triangles
6. Orange vest
7. Fluorescent light, wires, portable blood pressure unit
8. Regular flashlight
9. First-aid kit
10. Water
11. Patch codes, rosters, fire station listings
12. Grill, tent
13. Spotlight, communication kit
14. Machete, fire extinguisher, ropes, jack, radio equipment, parts
15. ID cards
16. Rain Gear

I'm sure you can now think of other items that can be added to an emergency kit. This exercise wasn't to tell you to add these items, but to get you thinking of what you might want to add.

The 20 members of the Gwinnett ARES attended the orientation session held on September 26, 1994. Information packets that contained the call-up tree, roster, organizational chart and

misc. information were given to those attending this first class. Mail-out to members not in attendance of the call-up tree and roster will go out shortly.

The ARES Net on 9/28 with net control Ike Chapman, KE4GYM had 22 check-ins for the evening.

Many thanks for all who have participated in the nets and the classes.

6-95

## SUPPORTING AMATEUR RADIO

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## GARS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION (SHORT FORM)

Amateur Callsign: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_ Expires: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work-Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Fax-Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Type of membership: ☐ Individual ☐ Family ARRL Member? Y/N \_\_\_\_\_ Life? Y/N \_\_\_\_\_

Additional members for Family Memberships:

NAME:	CALLSIGN:	CLASS (circle 1)	BIRTH DATE	ARRL Y/N	LIFE? Y/N
_____	_____	E A G T + T N	__/__/__	Y/N	Y/N
_____	_____	E A G T + T N	__/__/__	Y/N	Y/N
_____	_____	E A G T + T N	__/__/__	Y/N	Y/N

Check Interests:

☐ -Class instruction ☐ -Field Day operation ☐ -Repeater maintenance ☐ -Gars club booth staffing ☐ -Community events

☐ -Emergency ☐ -Administrative ☐ -Fund raisers

☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Dues: April 1 to Sept 30  
\$25.00 for Individual Memberships  
\$35.00 for Family Memberships

From Oct. 1 to Dec. 31:  
\$12.50 for Individual Membership  
\$17.50 for Family Memberships

From Jan 1 to March 31  
\$6.25 for Individual Membership  
\$8.75 for Family Memberships



Mail your completed application with check made out to GARS to: Gwinnett Amateur Radio Society, PO Box 88 Lilburn, Ga 30226



# HAMFEST CALENDAR

Oct	22-23	Hamfest Chattanooga, TN	146.79-
Oct	29	Computer Show & Hamfest Mobile, AL	146.22+
Nov	5-6	Alford Mem. H <sup>1</sup> est Lawrenceville, GA	146.76-
Nov	12	Hamfest Myrtle Beach, SC	
Nov	12	Hamfest Montgomery, AL	146.84-
Nov	19-20	Suncoast Convention, Tampa FL	

?=Date not confirmed. Several entries taken from SERA Journal. Georgia locations are bold. Nearby locations are bold and underlined.

## OCTOBER 20th GARS MEETING AT WILLIAMS SEAFOOD on Buford Hwy. see p.1 for details

GARS News publishes the Atlanta Metro Area VE/VEC Examination Schedule as a service to its members and assumes no responsibility for errors or schedule changes. Call and confirm schedules before going. All sessions are walk-in. Take copies of current license and/or certificate of completed elements with you to all sessions.

1st Sunday - Lawrenceville W5YI-VEC - Jackson EMC  
461 Swanson Rd - Lawrenceville - 2:00PM  
Duane Reynolds, WB2YAD - 962-9582

1st Monday - Roswell ARRL-VEC 7:30PM  
St Ann Catholic Church - 4905 Roswell Rd - Marietta  
Delaine McCarthy, KM4FV - 993-9758

1st Saturday - Clayton Co. Emergency Mgmt Bldg  
7496 N. McDonough St. - Jonesboro - 9:00AM  
George White, KN4NG 361-6850

2nd Sundays - First Presbyterian Church  
183 West Main Street, Cartersville 3:00PM  
Mark Swicord, KD4EYF - 975-1309

2nd Tuesday - Walton EMC 7:00PM  
3645 - Lenora Church Rd, Snellville  
Wayne Taylor, WD4CCA 498-7759

2nd Saturday - Stn Mtn CA-VEC 8:30AM  
Stone Mountain-Methodist Church  
Hal Martin, K14RD - 978-9160

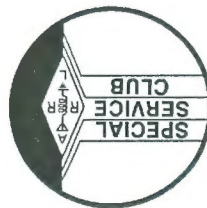
3rd Saturdays - Marietta First United Methodist Church  
56 Whitlock Ave, Room 319 - 9:00AM  
Larry Huff, WA4CQZ - 955-3171

4th Sunday N Atlanta ARRL-VEC - Episcopal Church of the Atonement  
2:30PM Highpoint Rd, Atlanta  
John King, AB4GK - 381-5291

4th Friday GARS W5YI-VEC - 7:00PM - St John Neumann Church  
801 Tom Smith Rd, off Five Forks Tricuum Rd, Lilburn  
Howie Gould, W4NVF 921-8362 Headphones!



P.O. Box 88  
Lilburn, Ga 30226



GARS Meeting at WILLIAMS SEAFOOD on Buford Highway on the 3rd Thursday, October 20th. Join us for fun and fellowship at 6:00PM. You don't have to eat, if not hungry just come right to the meeting room.